

33. *CALDESIA PARNASSIIFOLIA* (LINN.) PERL. (ALISMATACEAE)
— A NEW RECORD FOR WESTERN HIMALAYA

During an extensive plant collection in Almora district of Kumaun region, the senior author collected an interesting aquatic herb *Caldesia parnassiifolia* (Linn.) Perl., which is now being reported for the first time from Western Himalaya. The specimens are lodged in the Herbarium, Department of Botany, Kumaun University Campus, Almora.

Caldesia parnassiifolia (Linn.) Perl., Fl. Ilal. 3: 599, 1853; Hartog in Steenis, Fl. Maleisiana Ser. 1, 5: 319, 1957 (*parnassiifolia*); Subramanyam, Aquatic Angiosperms. 84, fig. 51, 1962; Saldanha and Nicolson, Fl. Hassan Dist. 631, fig. 105, 1976. *Alisma parnassiifolia* Bassi ex L., Syst. Nat. ed. 12, 3 (App.): 230, 1768. *A. reniforme* D. Don, Prodr. Fl. Nepal 22, 1825; Hooker, Fl. Brit. Ind. 6: 560, 1893; Gamble, Fl. Madras 1594 (1112), 1931. *Caldesia reniformis* (D. Don) Makino, Bot. Mag. (Tokyo) 20: 34, 1906.
A glabrous aquatic herb. Leaves floating

deeply cordate, subcoriaceous, 13-15 veined, posterior lobes round. Flowers white, in panicle; branches of panicle in whorls of three. Stamens 6, filaments broadened at base. Pistils 5-8, crowded on a small receptacles; style subterminal, persistent. Achenes awned, elliptic, with 3-5 smooth longitudinal ribs on the dorsal side.

Specimen examined: Kumaun Himalaya, District Almora, Baijnath (1400 m), P. C. Pande 4004.

Ecology: Scarce, in ponds, tanks and shallow water bodies along river bank at Baijnath near Garur, and commonly associated with *Nelumbo nucifera*, *Utricularia stellaris*, *Monochoria vaginalis* and *Blyxa auberti* etc.

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34. NOTES ON CYPERACEAE OF MAHARASHTRA

During our studies on the Cyperaceae of Maharashtra we have come across some interesting data regarding the distribution and identify of some species which require corrections and additions to the existing literature.

1. *Cyperus castaneus* Willd. Sp. Pl. 1: 278, 1797; Clarke, in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind.

6: 598, 1893, Cooke, Fl. Bombay Pres. 2: 861 (2: 374), 1909; Blatter & McCann, Journ. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc. 37(2): 258, 1934.

This species has been reported from Konkan by T. Cooke (1909) and by Blatter & McCann from Konkan, Bombay and Laddapur (1934)

on the authority of T. Cooke. Vartak and Ghate (1983) have not included this species in their enumeration of sedges from Western Maharashtra, thereby indicating that it is not represented in Poona herbaria (BSI, MACS). There is no specimen of this species in Blatter Herbarium too. We have collected it from Aronda-Savantwadi.

Exsiccata: S. M. Almeida — 1904; M. R. Almeida — 51 (ALC).

2. **Fimbristylis cinnamometorum** (Vahl) Kunth. Enum. 2: 229, 1837; Kern, in Fl. Males. Ser. 1, 7 (3): 565, 1974. *Scirpus cinnamometorum* Vahl, Enum. Pl. 2: 278, 1908. *F. cyperoides* Br. var. *cinnamometorum* C. B. Clarke, in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind. 6: 650, 1893 & Ill. Cyper. t. 44, f. 1-4, 1909.

This species is not reported from Maharashtra earlier. We have collected it from Savantwadi.

Exsiccata: S. M. Almeida — 2843.

3. **Fimbristylis kingii** C. B. Clarke ex Boek., Cyper. Nov. 2: 1890; Clarke in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind. 6: 633, 1893.

This species is not reported from Maharashtra as well as from erstwhile Bombay Presidency. We have collected it from Maharashtra, from Savantwadi taluka. In Blatter herbarium (BLAT), there are specimens from Nilgiris. (Fyson-2706; Gamble-397, 16695).

Exsiccata: S. M. Almeida — 3637, 3732.

4. **Fimbristylis polytrichoides** (Retz.) R. Br., Prodr. 226, 1810, Clarke in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind. 6: 632, 1893 & Ill. Cyper. t. 40, ff. 8-9, 1909; Kern, Fl. Males. Ser. 1, 7 (3): 586, 1974. *Scirpus polytrichoides* Retz. Obs. Bot. 4: 11, 1786.

There are a number of specimens of this species in Blatter Herbarium collected from Madh-Island, near Bombay, along with specimens from other localities. All the Madh-Island specimens, however, differ from the rest

of the material and the description of the species in literature, in having brown coloured nuts (not yellow) and glumes exceedingly longer than so far described.

Exsiccata: SMA — 2421, 2951.

5. **Fimbristylis siberiana** Kunth, Enum. Pl. 2: 237, 1837; Kern, in Blumea 8(1): 131, 1965; Naithani & Raizada in Ind. For. 103: 416, 1977. *F. ferruginea* (non Vahl, 1806); Deene, Nouv. Ann. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris 3: 352, 1834. *F. ferruginea* Vahl var. *siberiana* Boek. in Linnaea 37: 17, 1871.

The species probably goes in our local floras under *Fimbristylis ferruginea* Vahl. For description and distinguishing characters see Naithani & Raizada (1977).

In Blatter Herbarium there are specimens from Poona and Malad.

Exsiccata: M. Ezekiel-Poona-30420; G. L. Shan-Malad-4774, 7105 (BLAT).

6. **Fuirena trilobites** C. B. Clarke in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 6: 66, 1893; Vartak, Journ. Univ. Poona 40: 196, 1971.

The species has been reported from Gujarat and Bangalore (Karnataka). We have collected it from Savantwadi, in Maharashtra. For description see Vartak (1971).

Exsiccata: S. M. Almeida — 3393, 4223, 3662.

7. **Scleria rugosa** R. Br., Prodr. 240, 1810; Kern in Reinwardtia 6: 76, 1961 & Blumea 11: 206, f. 8, 1961; Govindarajalu in Journ. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc. 69 (1): 246, 1972; Naithani & Raizada in Ind. Forester 103: 411-23, 1977. *S. flaccida* Clarke in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind. 6: 688, 1893 (non Steud., 1855). *S. zeylanica* Clarke in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind. 6: 687, 1893 (non Poir., 1806). *S. annularis* Steud., Syn. Pl. Cyper. 176, 1855 (non Kunth., 1837); Blatter & McCann, Journ. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc. 37 (4): 778-9, 1935.

The species is included here for purpose of correct identity and nomenclature of our material. Vartak and Ghate (1983) reported it from Goa and Thana, under *S. annularis*. In Blatter Herbarium there are specimens from Borivli, near Bombay.

Exsiccata: R. R. Fernandez — 2652, 2665-6.

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35. *OIANTHUS DISCIFLORUS* HOOK. F. — A LITTLE KNOWN
TAXON FROM PENINSULAR INDIA

(With a text-figure)

During the intensive exploration of the plant wealth of Kurnool district in Andhra Pradesh, a little known taxon was collected and was identified as *Oianthus disciflorus* Hook. f. of the family Asclepiadaceae. The species is very poorly represented in Indian Herbaria. There are only two specimens at MH collected on 31-8-1917 in Ramanapenta in Kurnool district. Perhaps this taxon is endemic to Kurnool district. Although Hook. f. in Flora of British India mentioned that the species occurs in Western peninsula, he was not sure about the area of occurrence and suggested the Konkan. The species is not reported in the Flora of Madras Presidency.

A short description with line diagrams are given to facilitate identification of the plant.

Oianthus disciflorus Hook. f. in Fl. Brit.

India 4: 49. 1883. (Fig. 1)

Twining undershrubs, branches glabrous, pubescent when young. Leaves opposite, ovate, ovate-oblong or elliptic-oblong, 3-7 × 1.5-5 cm, acute, glabrous above, minutes pubescent below, entire, base cordate, petioles 1-2.5 cm long, pubescent. Flowers pale violet with pink inside in axillary cymes. Calyx lobes 5, divided nearly to the base, lobes equal, ovate, imbricate, 0.4 × 0.2 cm, sparsely pubescent below, obtuse. Corolla disciform, vertically depressed, 5-lobed purplish pink with in, divided to the mid half, 1 × 0.5 cm, obtuse, corona adnate to the staminal column. Pollinia pendulous, pollinial bags oblong, 1.5 × 0.4 mm, caudicle 1 mm long, corpusculum 0.4 mm long. Ovary globose — oblong, 4 mm long, placenta bifurcate. Follicles not seen.